

REMARKS

The office action of April 10, 2008, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the specification is object to under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

Claims 1 and 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs.

Claims 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over either the patent to Tsune et al. or the patent to Shrum, and further in view of the patent to Arvedi et al.

Claims 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Tsune et al. or Shrum, in view of Arvedi et al., and further in view of the patent to Striuli et al.

In connection with the objection to the specification under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, applicant has amended the

paragraphs mentioned by the Examiner in an effort to more clearly recite the invention.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification and the rejection of claims 1 and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C.112, first paragraph are overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claims 1, 7 and 8, and added new claim 9.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner. The "narrow side" referred to in claim 7 is the narrow side of the cross section of the mold.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1 and 4-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on

file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Applicant has carefully reviewed each of the cited references. Applicant submits that the combinations argued by the Examiner do not teach a continuous casting mold having an inner geometrical cross-section form and being configured to have dimensions that are analogous to a locally deducible quantity of a solidification heat for the continuous casting according to a temperature progression diagram along the mold height, as in the presently claimed invention. There is no teaching in the references of a mold having the above-mentioned features, together with the remaining features recited in the claim.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and

Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Klaus P. Stoffel

Reg. No. 31,668

For: Friedrich Kueffner

Reg. No. 29,482

317 Madison Avenue, Suite 910

New York, New York 10017

(212) 986-3114

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 11, 2008.

By:



Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: August 11, 2008